

The Avalanche

O. PALMER, Publisher.
GRAYLING, MICHIGAN.

If there were a "strike" at a clock factory now, one could see weighty reasons for it.

FULL many a can of parrot kerosene
Both expedite the slowly kindling fire;
Full many a Bridget, Maggie, or Kathleen
Both by its aid join the celestial choir.

A few theatrical men are talking of abolishing bill boards. If they could do away with board bills it would be to the purpose.

BERNHARDT, Langtry, Patti, and Mary Anderson are writing books. They will be offered to the soap trade at a liberal discount for use as premiums.

The man who has the courage to fail in trying to do right, rather than succeed in wrong, is the real hero, no matter whether he wears a paper cap or a crown on his head.

THAT war cloud in Europe has become so dense and threatening that there is no telling what might happen if an American rainmaker with a few bombs should go over there and begin experimenting.

PUCK has been cut off the list of papers in the reading-rooms of the Boston Public Library, because it is not considered healthy reading for the young. Boston takes life too seriously to laugh at jokes.

AFTER a five-years' term in the penitentiary, Mr. J. Finley Hoke, the thrifty bank cashier who robbed a Peoria bank of \$200,000 and fled to Canada, is now free and can go where he pleases with his money. Forty thousand dollars a year is a good salary for a man to earn in prison.

WHEN men, weary with the world's battle, return to the shelter of their own home, they need the kindness, the refinement, the high cultivation, the usefulness, the gentle pity which woman as she was meant to be knows how to afford him. The cultivation of a woman's mind cannot be a cultivation proper to her—her constitution, her marked gifts, her work in the world.

THE latest thing is a "repairing outfit" of shoemakers' tools that enables the thrifty father of a family to do his own shoe mending and dispense with the services of cobblers entirely. The worst thing about this invention is that it seems to be the work of some experienced shoemaker who wants to get rich at the expense of his brethren.

THE numerous accidents which befall people who confide in the happy-go-lucky ministrations of boy drug clerks ought to serve as warnings, but they do not. Some additional legislation seems needed before the public can feel certain that no ignorant or person of immature judgment will be found in the position of a dispensing clerk. Children cannot be allowed to clerk.

THE conduct of that spirited girl in a town close to New York City, who publicly horsewhipped a man because he had followed and accosted her on the streets on every possible occasion for three years, will meet with general approval. But it is too much to hope that it will serve as a salutary lesson to the race of "mashers." Those unworthy persons are possessed of such overweening conceit that each thinks such a mishap could never occur to him. Yet horsewhips are cheap and American girls are plucky.

WHAT will Stanley Africanus say to the news that Emin Pasha claims to have discovered the real and only Simon-pure sources of the Nile? There is a touch of bitterness in Emin's triumphant announcement, as much as to imply, "Oh, yes; you thought a bug-hunter couldn't find sources! But here they are, and all the others are spurious." Having thus set his trademark at the springs of ancient Nile, Emin is getting warlike, and talks of engaging the Mahdi of the moment in battle. But twice well to be prudent, for the Mahdi is a bad man with a bad eye, and he and his have already brought more than one white exploring expedition to grief.

THAT ancient suggestion that railway accidents be avoided by strapping a member of the board of directors to the engine might not, it appears, prove effective after all. The ex-president of the road and his wife were on the Monon train which met with a serious accident at Crawfordsville, Ind. In the reports of the disaster, which was a horrible one, the statement is made that "it was due to a loose rail, two section-hands being at work on it at the time." That the condition of the rail should have been known and still no effort made to warn an approaching passenger train is a startling evidence of the happy-go-lucky system which prevails on too many railroads.

STANLEY is lecturing in Australia, and tells an interviewer there that "Emin Pasha is an utterly indecisive man—a man with no mind of his own—a man just suited, for instance, for a lady's afternoon tea party." The fact that immediately after escaping from Stanley's janitor, Emin made his way back to the very spot in the depths of the African jungle where he had been "rescued," while Stanley has ever since been dangling at the apron-strings of rich women on the

outlook for celebrities, or chasing the almighty dollar to his fair in the lecture bureau, suggests that the pseudo-American explorer is snoring and snoring at the heels of a great man.

NEW SOUTH WALES is fortunate in the possession of a jurist who for a clear insight into the principles of justice out-Daniels Daniel. The biographical encyclopedia dodge for making money out of the vanity of men is as popular in that antipodean region as it is here. Into the court of this worthy judge came the publisher of "Australian Men of Mark," suing a subscriber. The defendant pleaded that he had subscribed for the work on the representation that it would contain his biography, but found it did not and refused to accept it. The judge, however, took a comprehensive view of the case and ruled all contracts for the work void on the ground that its title "Men of Mark" was a humbug and a fraud, as the biographies were those of nonentities willing to pay the price. Carried to its logical conclusion that decision would make life miserable for the theatrical managers who advertise competent actors and clever comedies.

WHILE the horrible and criminal railroad slaughters of late are receiving such universal condemnation, there is another matter directly connected which should be denounced, and for which prompt remedy should be provided. Immediately after the disastrous rear collision at Hastings, word that it had occurred flashed over the country, and thousands, whose relatives were imperiled in the accident, were eager to learn the fate of their loved one. Many of those who came out of the wreck alive hastened at once to telegraph assurance of their safety to those so anxiously awaiting it. But the operator at Hastings would receive no such telegrams. He coolly and unfeelingly refused them, saying that it was in accordance with orders from headquarters. Fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, were at home stricken with fear, and enduring the agony of terrible suspense, but no word of comfort could be sent them. The railroad company had ordered otherwise. Had the wires been burdened with messages for surgeons, medicines, nurses, and other means of relief, there might have been some excuse for the cold-blooded order, but no such explanation is offered. When a corporation becomes thus soulless, some way should be found to force upon it a semblance of feeling.

We have been inclined to give to Dr. Leslie B. Keeley no small credit for the good he has apparently done in curing thousands of inebriates of the disease of drunkenness. It makes no difference whether his remedy is truly bi-chloride of gold or permanganate of potash; it does the work he claims for it, and thousands testify to his sincerity of purpose. But there must be something malvolent in the man's make-up, after all. He announces that he has been highly successful in the prevention and cure of the grip, and, unlike his attitude on the grip specific, he is willing to disclose to the public the remedy he uses. But horrors! It's assafetida!

The Doctor's prominence in the medical world insures that a multitude of people will adopt his suggestion. And just think of the stupendous joke he will enjoy! We can all remember when, in our school days, a bag of assafetida hung around the neck was an infallible protection against measles, scarlet fever, whooping cough, diphtheria, chicken pox, or whatever else may have been prevalent. It surely was a protection, for no one with the olfactory-paralyzing odor was allowed to get within gun-shot distance of anybody else, sick or well, unless the second party, taking advantage of the similitude in illibis curantur idea, was also fortified by the magic bag. And now Dr. Keeley proposes that four grains of the unspeakably stinking stuff should be taken four times a day, by any one who either fears or experiences the grip. And hundreds will do it. So whenever you meet a man who smells like a combination of bi-sulphide of carbon, gas factory, and the modern society girl, you may know that Keeley, the exorciser of the drink demon, has scored another victim. After all, we shouldn't wonder if it was a long-headed scheme on his part. He may have pretty thoroughly exhausted the supply of inebriates, and be alarmed at the prospect of empty infirmaries. And if he can induce a part of sober mankind to adopt his cure for the grip, there is certainly nothing that would drive the balance to drink any more quickly or persistently.

Cotton in Turkestan.
Turkestan is beginning to develop her resources in the matter of growing cotton, just as the Southern States are giving less attention to the staple, and more to other crops. Turkestan produced 97,200,000 pounds of cotton last year, but her crop this year is 30 per cent greater, reaching 126,000,000 pounds. It is expected that a still more rapid development will take place in the future, as labor-saving machines have been introduced, and more attention than heretofore is being given to irrigation and planting.—Philadelphia Ledger.

A Scrubbing Brush for Potatoes.
It is next to impossible to wash potatoes perfectly clean by hand. The use of a little scrubbing brush, such as may be purchased at from 5 to 10 cents, will soon make their jackets fresh and clean, so that they will be fit to be brought on the table.

Old Furniture Restored.
Cracks in furniture may be filled with Indian red or burnt umber to get the desired shade. When dry it will take on equal polish.

WELL-DRESSED WOMEN

TO BE FOUND IN NEW YORK AS WELL AS PARIS.

Gowns Garnished and Set Off in the Most Simple Style—Handsome Ball Dresses for Young Persons—Elegant Dinner Costumes, Etc.

Fresh from New York.

PARIS may be the recognized center of the world of fashion, but it is no longer true, as Mrs. F. R. P. remarks, that it is necessary to go there to see the perfectly dressed woman. There are quite as much wealth and luxury, quite as much refinement and physical grace in the capital of the new world, writes our New York correspondent, as in that gay and frivolous city, which, composed of the fashions of those who pursue pleasure. The fashionable American lady is rarely willing to accept the latest French styles without considerable change and modification. This fact proves New York to be a genuine capital with modes and manners of its own.

Now that the season is at its height, the woman of fashion is to be seen at her very best, and I can't help noting that ball, dinner and reception dresses have steadily maintained their simplicity of make-up, relying upon the elegance of material to attain fine effects. In my initial illustration, for instance, you will possibly be struck by the simple style in which the gown is garnished and set off, and yet the effect is altogether charming, for it would be difficult to find a more lovely gown than this very one—a pale-blue satin with a collar in pleated cream silk gauze, and ruffles of the same on the sleeves and bottom of skirt, the centre being of cream satin. Besides satins, Louis XV. brocades and the heavy Louis XVI. failles are extremely modish for evening wear. These elegant fabrics are often set off with fronts of white tulle embroidered with black silk, or with multi-colored pearls in Byzantine style. The overskirts worn with evening costumes are either of silk muslin in two colors, black or white, sparkling with sequins or stars, or of gauze dotted with metal butterflies.

For young persons, crepons and silk muslins trimmed with lace and silk stockings in harmonious tone with the costume is a dignified and modest way of wearing the new styles. The black stockings being used only with the street toilet. For evening dress the white glove, with fourteen or sixteen buttons, leaves a portion of the upper arm visible. Gloves which are worn under the sleeves have this in their favor, they conceal absolutely all the defects of plumpness.

In my fourth illustration you will find represented two charming toilets, the one in the left a dinner dress and the one on the right a ball toilet. The dinner dress is made up in black tulle with pompadour figures over a silk foundation. There is a demi-train which is trimmed with a ruche gathered in the middle and fastened at the top and bottom. The skirt is caught up in such a way as to produce a wavy effect. The corsage is pointed, lined with silk, faced at the back, cut square in front and partially covered with a velvet figure, ornamented with black feathers. The high short velvet sleeves over those of tulle. The fronts of the figure are hooked to the corsage, and may either constitute part of it or be put on separately. The ball costume is made up in Persian blue satin, a shade of blue, and the high collar is in silver embroidery, stiffened and fastened to the neck with reversed stitching. The bodice is in silk muslin, embroidered with silver, and the skirt is in black tulle and black satin. The bodice also forms the plastron. It is lined with white silk, and the seculs at the bottom are ornate.

set off with satin, ceintures in delicate tones are in great vogue. In one instance I saw an exquisite toilet for a young person, which, contrary to the usual dictum that flowers belong to the twenties, foathers to the thirties and lace to the forties, was beautifully trimmed with a light fluffy feather ruche encircling the bottom of the gown and running up the side to the waist. You will see this ball toilet partially pictured in my second illustration. At the shoulder there was a bunch of the "feather trimming" which was in cream-white, while the gown itself was in a delicious pale-green.

The floral ornaments of gowns are usually geraniums, Persian lilies, heather, geraniums and hydrangeas. When I hear the men railing against the elegance of our toilets I am reminded of the Abbe Gobelin's protest against the beautiful gowns of Madame de Maitenon, who, however, was not yet the woman she was destined to become, but plain Widow Scarron. Said the Abbe: "You should dress more simply and in this way overcome your inordinate desire to please." To which the lady replied that she was really not so plain as he said, and that she was a little country girl. "I couldn't make my costume any plainer," there is not a ribbon or a piece of lace that I could do without." But the confessor refused to be convinced.

"I don't know what all is," said the priest, "but when you come to confession I will have to tell you that you are a little country girl."

It has long been a mooted question whether a lady of fashion went to a grand dinner party to please the host or herself. Certainly there is no particular pleasure in attending an evening entertainment; rather it is from start to finish a stiff, ceremonious and unseemly proceeding, interrupted by awkward pauses, long waits, and the arrival of thoroughly indigestible food. The truth is, the lady of fashion goes there to show her dinner dress, a gown which, barring the low neck and short sleeves, often surpasses the ball toilet in magnificence. Even if you never have an opportunity to wear one of these elegant gowns known as dinner dresses, yet you will not be disinclined to examine the beautiful creation pictured in my last illustration. It is the genuine thing, rich, harmonious and intricate, and is made up as follows: A straight skirt, a corsage with puffed sleeves, both richly embroidered, and a train trimmed with swan's-down, the corsage also being trimmed with swan's-down. The train is a ribbon band, which is shaped out-cut at the back after it leaves the front. The embroidery consists of an applique and gold stitching. The folds of the train are supported on the underskirt by a ribbon band, which is made up of the back pieces, with the round sides turned toward them, thus furnishing the requisite fullness. The Watteau fold springs from the middle of the back. The pointed corsage is made up of the same material as the skirt, and the long narrow sleeves are embroidered at the wrists and are tight from the elbow down and puffed at the shoulder, but not much swayed. The land of swan's-down which is sewed to it, otherwise the corsage could not be put on, but it is fastened at the lower part of the waist. In putting on the dress pass the band of swan's-down over the head.

The population of America increases by 7,000 persons a day.

My third illustration pictures another charming ball gown, made up in crepe de chine and garnished with ribbons. There must be a foundation skirt of tulle or silk of the same color cut out very close to the body, and the crepe de chine is caught up on both sides, as shown, with small bouquets. The skirt is gathered at the waist, with most of the gathering thrown to the back. The puffed ruffles of the bottom of the skirt is made of straight bands of the crepe de chine gathered on both sides and sewed on with reversed seam. The ribbons which spring from the centre are tied with bows, as indicated. The corsage consists of an adjusted lining covered with the puffed material, the decollete being edged with a small ruche made of the head of the upper puffing. The gowns are only made in the lining. The corsage, composed of interlacing ribbons, is fastened on the right with hooks. The puffed sleeves are ornamented with ribbons. The right shoulder has a bow, the left a small bouquet. The face continues to hold its place as a favorite garniture, any up with muslin or a thin veiled stuff. The crepe de chine is caught up on both sides, as shown, with small bouquets. The skirt is gathered at the waist, with most of the gathering thrown to the back. The puffed ruffles of the bottom of the skirt is made of straight bands of the crepe de chine gathered on both sides and sewed on with reversed seam. The ribbons which spring from the centre are tied with bows, as indicated. The corsage consists of an adjusted lining covered with the puffed material, the decollete being edged with a small ruche made of the head of the upper puffing. The gowns are only made in the lining. The corsage, composed of interlacing ribbons, is fastened on the right with hooks. The puffed sleeves are ornamented with ribbons. The right shoulder has a bow, the left a small bouquet. The face continues to hold its place as a favorite garniture, any up with muslin or a thin veiled stuff. The crepe de chine is caught up on both sides, as shown, with small bouquets. The skirt is gathered at the waist, with most of the gathering thrown to the back. The puffed ruffles of the bottom of the skirt is made of straight bands of the crepe de chine gathered on both sides and sewed on with reversed seam. The ribbons which spring from the centre are tied with bows, as indicated. The corsage consists of an adjusted lining covered with the puffed material, the decollete being edged with a small ruche made of the head of the upper puffing. The gowns are only made in the lining. The corsage, composed of interlacing ribbons, is fastened on the right with hooks. The puffed sleeves are ornamented with ribbons. The right shoulder has a bow, the left a small bouquet. The face continues to hold its place as a favorite garniture, any up with muslin or a thin veiled stuff. The crepe de chine is caught up on both sides, as shown, with small bouquets. The skirt is gathered at the waist, with most of the gathering thrown to the back. The puffed ruffles of the bottom of the skirt is made of straight bands of the crepe de chine gathered on both sides and sewed on with reversed seam. The ribbons which spring from the centre are tied with bows, as indicated. The corsage consists of an adjusted lining covered with the puffed material, the decollete being edged with a small ruche made of the head of the upper puffing. The gowns are only made in the lining. The corsage, composed of interlacing ribbons, is fastened on the right with hooks. The puffed sleeves are ornamented with ribbons. The right shoulder has a bow, the left a small bouquet. The face continues to hold its place as a favorite garniture, any up with muslin or a thin veiled stuff. The crepe de chine is caught up on both sides, as shown, with small bouquets. The skirt is gathered at the waist, with most of the gathering thrown to the dinner dress.

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eyes and golden hair they accord deliciously.

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The Avalanche

O. PALMER, Publisher.
GRAYLING, MICHIGAN.

The plowman who sings and whistles at his work, and sleeps in a cabin where peace and love abide, often gets more out of life than the man of millions living in a palace.

Boston points with pride to the circumstance that there were three hundred more marriages in that city last year than the year before. But when it comes to births, Boston, when it comes to births, where are you?

A young Norwegian in Minnesota felt heir to a baronetcy and a fortune in Norway, and the good news so elated him that he proceeded to get drunk and was frozen to death in a barn. There are two or three morals to be deduced from this incident, and they are too obvious to need explicit statement.

There is danger lest the news that the professor of political economy at the Chicago University will be paid \$7,000 a year, coupled with the recent reduction of base-ball salaries, may divert the attention of young collegians from those athletic sports which have long been the glory of American institutions for higher education.

People say it is foolish to worry about being buried alive, but every one worries more or less about it. Medical students who know more or less about the number of people who are tucked away alive is surprisingly large. The people have such a horror of the thought, that a law should be passed compelling people to keep their dead until the sure sign of death shows itself.

The vanity which throws out hints, and the garbally which abhors silence, and the flippancy which spurns restraint, are all poor and mean characteristics which every right-minded man and woman will be on the watch to control. Even the entire frankness with which some people discuss their own affairs forms no precedent for discussing those of another. The right to the former is unquestionable, though its wisdom may often be doubted; but the latter is neither right nor kind.

It is reported that there is a wide feeling of distrust at Talequah, the capital of the Indian Nation, over the sudden deaths of Chief Mayes, Assistant Chief Chambers, and ex-Chief Bushyhead. The charge that their deaths were caused by other than natural causes has been freely made. They have all taken active parts in the exciting questions which have been before the nation. The loss of such men as Mayes and Bushyhead is very great. Bushyhead especially was a scholarly man, liberal in his views, and a well-equipped statesman.

It is very fortunate that the question as to where Columbus was really buried has been brought up before we have actually embarked on the business of holding the great Exposition in his honor. What a catastrophe it would have been to inaugurate the Exposition in the full belief that his remains were reposing in Havana, and then have Prof. Cronan turn up with his alleged discovery that they have all these years been quietly resting in San Domingo. And he really seems to have a good case. The San Domingo coffin has five inscriptions while the one at Havana has none.

We should be studiously just and courteous to the stranger within the gates. A report that has gained wide currency concerning Lady Henry Somerset deserves summary stopping. It is that, although a temperance missionary, she is owner, according to a parliamentary return, of several licensed "pubs," or saloons, in London. Lady Henry Somerset inherited a considerable estate, including property leased for this nefarious business, and it is not legally in her power to terminate these leases at her will. The fact, therefore, is not cause for reproach on a philanthropic woman, who will not renew the leases when they come within her control.

We wonder that someone does not write a book on cranks. And, by the way, he might make his fortune by hiring a few thousand cranks to push it as agents. Even the most intractable and case-hardened grumbler, who has thrown dozens of book agents down stairs, or strewn them about his office and trampled on them, could scarcely hope to resist the wild-eyed crank with his misleading mien, and the little black bag, which would recall so many things. And what a fertile subject! A catalogue of the cranks alone, in point of humor, would knock Mark Twain silly, beat Bob Burdette hollow, and drive Bill Nye into seclusion and country school-teaching for a living. There's millions in it!

A SWEDISH newspaper, the Ostgoten, takes a somewhat novel and striking view of the immigration question. It says that during the last ten years 375,000 persons have left Sweden as emigrants. The education of each of these persons cost at least a thousand crowns—about \$270—making about \$101,250,000 in all, and as they emigrated when they became old enough to turn their education to account and return some service to their country, the money spent for their education was a dead loss to Sweden. From a national point of view, but, looked at from our point of view, it means a clear gain of about

just so much to this country. We get the fruit without the cultivation. It ought to solace the Swedes to reflect that thus there is no actual waste in the world.

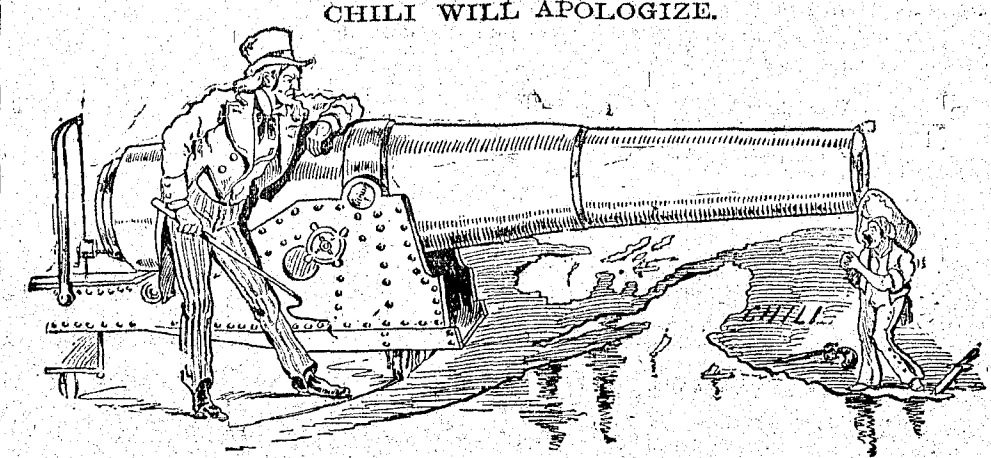
THE attempted suicide of Guy de Maupassant in a fit of delirium brought on by overwork is one more striking warning against that extravagant mental stress which is so much indulged in by the intellectual workers of to-day, but it will probably be no more effective than have been the many which have preceded it. The fever of modern life hurries men on with a power which is all but irresistible. Men in these days desire to live two or three lives at once. There is nothing which they are willing to forego, and since the circumstances of the time bring so many things within reach, they constantly disregard the limitations which are imposed upon man by human weakness and rush on to disastrous ends with blind disregard of the consequences, to which it is the most obvious madness to close the eyes. In the end they gain less of life or of enjoyment, and there is nothing which they enjoy to the full, because there is nothing to which they are able to give the whole attention; but they grasp at everything so eagerly that nothing in the end remains firmly in their hands.

THE discussion about the orders sent by Gen. Terry, who is dead, to Gen. Custer, who is dead, concerning the battle of the Little Big Horn in 1876, is mischievous and profitless. Terry was a prudent General, but always true to his duty. If a subordinate of Custer's grade had disobeyed his orders Terry would not have failed to report the fact in his official communications with the War Department. A misunderstanding he might overlook, but certainly not direct and palpable disobedience, such as is charged against the memory of a dead hero by Mr. Munger, the New Haven clergyman. The accusation rests upon the conversation of a staff officer relating reminiscences of verbal orders. The foundation is too slight for the superstructure, and with all respect to the cloth, it is to be said that the preacher had better stick to his vocation of saving the souls of living men, rather than resort to blackening the memories of the dead. Gen. Terry, no doubt, gave proper and prudent orders. Beyond question Custer did the best he could to execute them according to the information he had as to the enemy's strength and dispositions, and with such concurrence as he received from subordinates. It may be true that the history of the Custer massacre has yet to be written, but the reputation of that gallant, indefatigable and by no means indiscreet cavalry leader is not to be preached away on second-hand information.

THE moral convulsion which has recently attacked the little town of Ellingham, Ill., marks a distinct progress of the movement against the made in art, which was begun a year or so ago in Detroit and which then took the form of dragging the statues of Venus, Diana and other deities from the public gallery. The good people of Ellingham have been roused to a delicate frenzy by the exhibition on their theatrical billboards of lithographs displaying in lurid colors the nether charms of a company of women participating in the production of a burlesque known as "His Nibs and His Nobs." The result of the first attack of the good people upon the mayor of Ellingham was that he ordered the police to paste brown paper over the objectionable portions of the various anatomical designs. The faces which remained in sight, however, were of so violent a type that the reformers felt as though they had only half performed their duty. They accordingly returned to the mayor and requested him to tear down the lithographs and to prohibit the show. He promised to carry out their wishes, but at the last moment fell a prey to the superior blandishments of the theatrical manager. The lithographs remained and the show went on. The house was packed. The goddess thronged from motives more or less vulgar and the moral jostled them in order that they might justify by observation their previous exploits. The show was not as the pictures, but the nibbles and nobbles reaped a golden harvest. It is too bad, but it almost invariably happens that when the reputable element of the community starts into this kind of reform it succeeds solely in making up a purse for the benefit of the thing which it condemns.

Hats of the Beaver.
It will be bad for the beaver if the prairie which is being so freely bestowed upon its fur should lead to beaver hats becoming fashionable again. It is hygienic according to one authority, economical by another, in spite of its high price at first, and is generally agreed that for lightness, warmth and comfort the beaver hats, which were at one time the only wear, are still ahead of any others. "Of all the fells that may be felt, give me your English beaver," boldly declares an old song of 1658, and three years after Pepys bought him a "beaver," which cost him £4.5s., which is assurance doubly sure that they were then in the front of fashion, says the Warehouseman and Draper.

The colonies first and the Hudson Bay Company later almost depended on the beaver for their prosperity, and the number of skins which at times have been imported is surprising. It is popularly supposed that the invention of the silk hat led to the freedom of the beaver from the persecutions of the trappers, but the fact is that it has been hunted all the same and if any considerable demand were made upon his felt or fur by fashion there would be serious danger of his extinction.



UNCLE SAM: "Things seem to be comin' our way."

TESTING BIG GUNS.

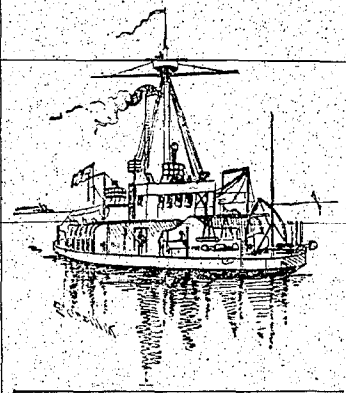
Recent Trial of Those on Our New Iron-clad Monitor.

The recent test of the big ten-inch guns of the double-turreted ironclad monitor Miantonomoh attracted great attention in naval circles, and seems to have been satisfactory so far as definite results were reached. The tests were made in Gardiner's Bay, where there is a clear range of over ten miles, and were at first somewhat interfered with by rough, unfavorable weather. The trial was the more interesting from the fact that it was the first time in the history of the navy that immense rifles like those mounted on the Miantonomoh had ever been fired on a coast-defense vessel.

There are four of the ten-inch guns, three of which were made in England and one in Bethlehem, Pa. The Bethlehem gun, which is mounted in the after turret, is one foot shorter than the English guns, but has the same caliber as the others. The difference, however, of a foot in the length of the gun makes a difference of one ton in its weight as compared with the others, the English gun weighing twenty-seven tons, and the Bethlehem gun weighs only twenty-six.

The armament of the Miantonomoh, says Frank Leslie's, is not confined to these great guns. She carries a secondary battery which is inferior to none in the service in point of efficiency, consisting of two three-pounder Hotchkiss rapid-fire guns and two thirty-seven millimeter revolving cannon. There are also two of the new Driggs-Schroeder rapid-fire guns. It is stated, as illustrating their destructive power, that these guns throw a shell weighing six pounds four times a minute, these shells being filled with high explosives, and having a range of three miles. At the range of a mile their effect on the decks of a thickly peopled man-of-war would be simply terrific.

The Miantonomoh's complement during her cruise consisted of eleven officers and 132 men, but only five of these officers and sixteen men were required in the actual working of both turrets, the guns and turrets are worked by hydraulic machinery—the guns are depressed, loaded, elevated and run out, and the turrets turned by machinery, and the firing is done



by an electric battery. The shots from the great guns were not fired at any target, but merely sent over the water at a slight elevation of the guns, the object being to test the recoil. Twenty shots in all were fired from the great guns in the turrets. The Driggs-Schroeder and Hotchkiss rapid-fire guns were fired from the hurricane deck, the elevated structure between the two turrets, and the revolving cannon were worked in the military mast tops.

THE SPEAKER'S WIFE.

A Life with Much of Romance, More of Worry and Most of Success.

The position of the wife of the Speaker of the House of Representatives is very near the topmost niche in Washington's social structure. She who now holds that place is a most interesting and lovable woman. The wife of the Speaker is one of Georgia's daughters, born at Ellenville, Seely County, near where she has spent most of her life. She was educated at Wesleyan College, Macon, Ga., where she remained until she had reached the interesting age of 18. She then returned to her home, entered society and met the young lawyer, Mr. Crisp, who had just been admitted to the bar.

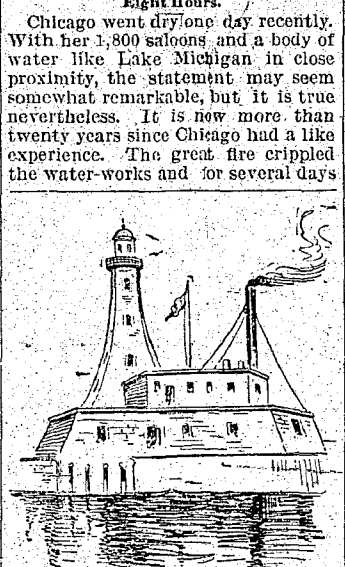
It seems to have been a case of love at first sight, as only a short time elapsed before the young couple decided to elope and get married, since the parental approval was entirely wanting. They accordingly went to a neighboring village, where the ceremony was quietly performed at the house of a friend. The astonished parents, who had no substantial reason for their opposition, promptly forgave the young people and the incident was soon forgotten.

Mrs. Crisp spends most of her leisure

CHILI'S BATTLE FLAG.

Its Striking Resemblance to That of the Late Confederacy.

Should the armies of the United States finally engage the Chilians, the veterans of '60-'61 will be startled at seeing the stars and bars once more opposing them in a desperate struggle.



CRISP, TWO MILES OUT.

The usual supply was entirely cut off. Since then there have been temporary interruptions of flow, and at times the citizens were called on to be economical, but the supply was never so nearly exhausted as it was last week. The consequences were in many cases deplorable, in others laughable. Many establishments were forced to shut down for want of the water wherewith to make steam, and at least one explosion was reported as a direct result of the inadequate supply.

The hotels and restaurants found it impossible to meet the bibulous and lavatory requirements of their patrons, hundreds of residents had to go without coffee for breakfast and wash their faces for washing, if they washed at all.

Fortunately the deprivation did not interfere with interior transit, as the cable-house reservoirs had a sufficient amount on hand for the emergency or made arrangements to haul water from the lake. But at the Stock Yards there was a serious suspension of activity, and many of the animals suffered intense thirst. Chicago gets her water supply from cribs located a considerable distance out in the lake, and the trouble was at these cribs. Ice formed in the port-holes, completely blocking up the passages through which the water normally flows into the intakes. It may seem strange, and the result of gross carelessness, that such an accident should be permitted to occur at a comparatively mild temperature, when several severe winters without any annoyance from that cause have been passed through. But the fact is the city had the extraordinary experience of eighteen days of consecutive frost, and worst of all, the water in the lake is phenomenally low. It is said to be a foot and a half below city datum, the latter being regarded as the minimum when it was taken as the standard, about forty-five years ago.

This means that the openings at the cribs, which would ordinarily be so far below the surface as to be out of the reach of frost, are now within the freezing area. It would be too much to say the evil could not have been prevented with due care. The fact is, the condition was so novel that it seems not to have been fully anticipated, though some trouble was looked for, and the force of fifteen men at the two-mile crib was recently doubled as a precautionary measure. Snow and ice accumulated near the openings and on a level with them, and was then carried inside, blocking up the apertures faster than it could be cleared away.



TUG DRIFTING THROUGH THE ICE TO THE CRIB.

Tugs and fireboats loaded with ice cutters and divers were hurried out through the frozen lake to remove the obstructions. Fortunately the milder weather that set in did not produce such large quantities of fresh ice as to increase the difficulty, and permitted the laborers to contend to better advantage with that already accumulated. The deprivation was so short-lived that comparatively little harm was done by the failure of the pumping-engines to do their usual work, but it was a pretty bad scare while it lasted, not the least element of uneasiness being the dread of fire breaking out while the water was shut off. The city was entirely without water for over eight hours.

Shades in False Teeth.
It is a fact that is not generally known that false teeth have to be made to suit the complexion if satisfactory results are desired. A dentist walking on Chestnut street called attention to this fact as he passed a lady who in smiling showed a beautiful set of the whitest teeth. "Those teeth are too white," he said. "She is a blonde and ought to have bluish-white teeth. A brunette can wear clear white teeth, but blondes should have bluish or cream-tinted." Then he mentioned that a friend of his had put in a set of perfectly white teeth for a lady who is very fair. He did it against his own judgment and only after the lady insisted strongly on it. She wore the set a few days and went back, saying the teeth were too conspicuous. She took a dark set the second time, and they "cannot be told from natural ones." In all dentists have as many as thirty different shades in false teeth, and have to exercise much care in the selection.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

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CHILI'S BATTLE FLAG.

Its Striking Resemblance to That of the Late Confederacy.

Should the armies of the United States finally engage the Chilians, the veterans of '60-'61 will be startled at seeing the stars and bars once more opposing them in a desperate struggle.

The resemblance between the old standard of the Confederacy and the present banner of Chili is both apparent and real. The Southerners at first floated in defiance a flag described heraldically as "stars, a jesse argent, on a canton argent, the stars of the second." The Chilian emblem is "per jesse argent and gules, on a canton azure a five-pointed star of the first."

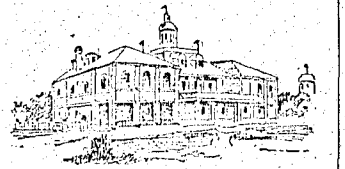
In every-day English the difference is this: The South bore three bars, red and white, with fourteen stars of white on a blue ground in the corner; the South Americans have two bars, white and red, with a single white star on a blue ground in the corner. Both were evidently framed from our own stars and stripes. The identity of the field of the two divided, as is ours, into white and red; the star or stars, white on the blue background in the upper corner, like the great North American constellation, now containing so proudly forty-four points of brightness and Union; the colors dear in song and story of red, white and blue, all point to an evident desire to pattern after the Great Republic.

AT THE BIG FAIR.

Michigan's Handsome Columbian Exposition Building.

Michigan's State Building will be one of the handsomest on the World's Fair grounds. What it will cost the architects cannot tell, as the lumbermen of the State are determined to make a complete exhibit of their timber resources, will donate all the lumber that goes into it. The building is artistic in design. It is of the classic style and has been treated freely. The structure will be two stories high, occupying a ground area of 80 by 120 feet. A main porch leads to the grand entrance, from which the visitor passes through an arched vestibule. On one side of the vestibule is the office of the Secretary of the State Board, and on the other side are arranged check rooms, a post-office, club rooms, reception apartments and committee rooms. Perhaps the main features of the first floor are the recessed loggias that are so arranged as to form secluded retreats for resting places. Big fireplaces are built at convenient places on the first floor. One of these is 8x24 feet, and in cold weather logs shipped from Michigan will blaze in it.

On the second floor are two large rooms, 36x68 feet, which will be used for special exhibits from Michigan, and perhaps as assembly rooms. A



MICHIGAN'S BUILDING.

rounding 30 feet in diameter extends through both floors and terminates at the roof in an observatory, from which a good view of the Exposition grounds and buildings can be had.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL. MICHIGAN STATE NEWS.

AN INTERESTING AND INSTRUCTIVE LESSON.

Reflections of an Elevating Character—Wholesome Food for Thought—Studying the Scriptural Lesson Intelligently and Profitably.

The Gracious Call.

The lesson for Sunday, Feb. 7, may be found in Isaiah 55:1-7.

Have patience, teachers and follow Sunday-school workers. After the bright light of the gospel the dimmer radiance of the Old Testament record tries your eyes a little, perhaps. But be not too hasty in protest, lest on the one hand the impression should go abroad, regarding the Book, that the prophetic portions are unimportant or unfruitful; and, on the other hand, the very erroneous notion should get out that you were not of a studious or painstaking turn of mind. Doubtless more careful searching will be necessary than before. The writer of the notes accompanying himself for a good piece of hard work when he opens the Old Testament pages. But it is healthy work, work that richly pays. And remember this, the word of God shall deliver them: "They are they which testify of me."

WHAT THE LESSON SAYS.
In a direct translation from the Hebrew. The word in English would read the usual significance of this exclamation. Every one that thirsteth. Do ye all that thirst. In the Hebrew a hyphen connects the two, thus, all-thirsty. Without. The root of the word means destruction, emptiness, lack, i. e., lack of means.—Price, i. e., "purchase money."

Spend. From the word meaning to lift or push, hence to weigh. The method of Oriental exchange.—Labor. The laborer suggests earnings. This, however, is a secondary meaning, the first signification of the word being to be tired or weary, though, would doubtless give a fair rendering. It is one of the meanings given by Davies.—Eat ye that which is good. Literally, Eat ye that which is good. The first meaning is freshness. It refers to anything that is nourishing. The Douay prefers the simple future here, making a declarative statement, "Ye shall be delighted in fatness." The Hebrew will admit either rendering.

Including a pictorial expression, to stretch out or extend your soul shall live. Similar form to the verb delight in the verse above, so favoring the Douay translation.—Everlasting. The word is a contract of eternity. Sure. Emphatic position, placed last. From this word our amen comes.

A witness. A suggestive word, its first meaning to bind or make firm, i. e., to certify.—The people. Better people, i. e., the nations spoken of in the verse below. One of it means a crowd, a multitude, or, for the sake of the object or aim is suggested by this proposition.—Glorious. Or, ye shall be glorious, (or make to glow) hence, adorn, beautify.

Seek ye the Lord. A good specimen of Hebrew terseness. Six words in the original for seventeen in the translation. But he may be found is, for instance, a circumlocution, the best perhaps we can make, to express one word in the Hebrew. Findable might be crudely suggested.—I call ye upon, or I invoke, call to him.

Forsake. First meaning, let go.—Iniquitous man.—Hebrew, a man of unrighteousness.—Abundantly pardon. Douay, bountiful to forgive. Margin, he will multiply to pardon. Literally, he will go on to pardon, i. e., he keeps on forgiving.

Thoughts. From the word, to weave, hence to think or purpose.—Ways. From the root to step, to walk.—Hence method of executing a purpose.—The Lord's name. A peculiar expression "used only in sacred associations; as it were, the oracle of the Lord."

But watereth the earth. A peculiar Hebrew idiom, but quite suggestive, until, or unless it watereth the earth.

Instead of, or more expressively, in the place of (other names). With the implication of pledge and prophecy.—An everlasting sign, or stamp of eternity.—That shall not be cut off, or not to be cut off.

It shall not return. Compare with the until it watereth of the preceding verse. God's word like God's name shall prosper. Original meaning to cleave, i. e., cut its way through to its purpose.

Manifested joy, merriment.—Peace. In the broad sense of success. The word means literally soundness or health, hence tranquillity of soul and life. Before you. Hebrew, before your face. Personal experience.—Clap their hands. One word with hyphen—connective in Hebrew, to go to hand-clapping, i. e., applause.

Higher than. Hebrew idiom, high from or high above.—THE LESSON TEACHES.
"Ho." Does it not remind you of the town-crier? What is the teacher, preacher, any Christian, but a crier of the gospel? All this is the meaning of it. It is like any one who is thirsty, who in any time feels soiled, is not this call to such as he? Without money, without lacking money, is not this just the basis on which God gives? (All the fitness he requires is to feel your need of him.)—Good eating is not a Christian's strength. It is like any one who is thirsty, who in any time feels soiled, is not this call to such as he? Without money, without lacking money, is not this just the basis on which God gives? (All the fitness he requires is to feel your need of him.)—Good eating is not a Christian's strength. It is like any one who is thirsty, who in any time feels soiled, is not this call to such as he? Without money, without lacking money, is not this just the basis on which God gives? (All the fitness he requires is to feel your need of him.)

Do not the feet turn as the ear inclines? To incline the ear to Satan, is it not to come to him? To incline the feet to him, is it not to come unto him? Was David a witness to God's sure mercies? Then is not his testimony as strong as any? Is it not a witness of his life with God?—Did not Isaiah with his "people" and "nations" sound out against Jewish narrowness, the full note of the true salvation of Christ's day?—If the Jehovah was to the Gentiles an "unknown God," was not the true Israel of the future to the Jews, as here intimated, an unknown God?—Is it like any one who is thirsty, who in any time feels soiled, is not this call to such as he? Without money, without lacking money, is not this just the basis on which God gives? (All the fitness he requires is to feel your need of him.)

Next Lesson—"The New Covenant." Jan. 31: 27-37.

The Grip Bacillus.

Dr. Koch's son-in-law has discovered the bacillus of the grip. Let him hit it with a club at once.—Louisville Post.

It is said that grip germs have been caught and photographed. This is letting light in a subject regarding which we have been somewhat in the dark.—Duluth Tribune.

Dr. Pfeiffer, a son-in-law of Dr. Koch, of Germany, announces that at last he has discovered the grip microbe. Having discovered it, what is to be done with it?—Indianapolis News.

Dr. Koch's son-in-law, Dr. Pfeiffer, is said to have discovered the grip bacillus and found it to be the smallest of all known bacilli. This is a great cause of "Little, but, my!—Buffalo Courier.

OCCURRENCES DURING THE PAST WEEK.

Big Pension for a Small Boy—Gladwin suffers by Fire—Northville's Old People Dying Fast—Insurance Company Quits Business.

From Far and Near.

THERE are 500 boys in the Reform School at Lansing.

JUDGE OF PROBATE GLEASER, of Escanaba, has been officially asked to return \$900 salary overdrawn during 1884-1890.

MISS EVA CURICK, who is holding a revival meeting in Chippewa County, is meeting with great success. She has started a campaign on the Sault.

SALLIE BAKER, of St. Ignace, was found dead in the hotel in which she had lived for about a year. Nothing was found in the house except a half-eaten turnip.

C. & W. M. Gross earnings during 1891 were \$1,750,924, an increase of \$144,509 over the previous year. The D. L. & N. earnings were \$1,252,090, an increase of \$32,416.

ALPENA has a furniture and undertaking establishment run on the installment plan. In undertaker's goods one ought to pay \$1 at death, and the balance on resurrection Monday.

AT Gladwin, two blocks of stores burned. Total loss, \$7,000. The origin of the fire is unknown. The local fire department saved sufficient property to pay the entire cost of the water-works.

THE projected railroad which is to run southeast from Negaunee, striking Lake Michigan at Manistigee, is said to have a right of way secured at St. Ignace, and to have already started the work of securing right of way.

JAMES E. BURGER, of Sebewing, a 12-year-old boy, has been consigned to the Reform School at Lansing. Though so young he is a thief, well known in the whole country, and his parents were utterly unable to do anything with him.

THE Michigan Wheel Company, at Lansing, elected the following officers: President, W. K. Prudden; Vice President, J. W. Edmunds; Secretary and Treasurer, W. E. Clark. The capital of \$100,000 has all been subscribed in full.

NELSON EVERETT and Dexter Briggs, two of the oldest inhabitants of Northville, died a few days ago. Now two more old pioneers have passed away. Mrs. Almira Dobbins, at the age of 77, and Mrs. Lucinda Smith, at the age of 87 years.

THE Otsego, Crawford & Rosecommon Mutual Fire Insurance Company, has gone the way of all flesh. It has existed one year and a half, and in that time there have been more fires in that vicinity than in the ten preceding years. A receiver has been appointed.

THE barn of F. A. Beach, a wealthy farmer living ten miles west of Port Huron, was burned by the explosion of a lantern. Lost, 18 horses, 1,000 bushels of wheat, 600 tons of hay and 1,000 bushels of wheat. Loss about \$10,000.

THE season for fish and snake stories is just about passed, but what will a man call this, from the Cheboygan News: "A fullman ear was pulled from Mackinac City, by Cheboygan, off the track, the entire distance, and the conductor never discovered the truth until the end of the trip."

THE Southern Michigan shorthorn breeders met at Jackson and changed the name of their society. Unfortunately the name isn't any shorter than the old and D. L. Improved Live Stock Association of Southern Michigan. W. E. Kennedy, of Liberty, was elected President.

AN 11-year-old boy at Saginaw, who has been a change on his relations, has received a snug little fortune from Uncle Sam. His father, John Phelps, had been a soldier during the war, and died when his son was very young, his mother having died before the father. The little boy has just received a pension of \$14 a month and \$2,200 back pension.

THE Michigan Salt Company, held its first annual meeting at Saginaw. During the year 3,000,000 barrels of salt were hauled. A resolution was adopted against putting salt on the free list. T. L. Cranage, Bay City, was elected President. F. C. Stone, Saginaw, Vice President, and D. L. Improved Live Stock Association of Southern Michigan, Secretary and Treasurer.

LANSING horsemen are raising \$25,000 for a kite-spring track.

CHARLES JORDAN threatens to sue the State for the illegal retention of his new-found wife at the industrial home for a period of four years.

FRANK ADAMS, of Kalamazoo, charges Officer Theo. Merrill with illegally compelling him to have his picture taken for the regular gallery, while taking letters from him, and with conspiring to send him to Jackson without due cause.

At Kalamazoo, Marshall Cobb raided a room where ten young men were quietly manipulating chips for dimes and dollars on a \$2 limit basis. The block has borne a good reputation, and so have these men. The place is broken up, and those in it were given their liberty under a promise that they would do so no more.

AS JOSEPH WORTH and a young man named Allen, of North Lansing, were out hunting, Worth got between Allen's shotgun and a rabbit, and Allen fired his mind to bag the game. After Dr. Jinn had extracted about sixty shots from the rear portion of Worth's anatomy the latter felt some better, but still resolutely refused to sit down to his meals.

A famous Gregory-Cotter libel suit at Menominee ended in a victory for Gregory. It will be remembered that Cotter accused Gregory of outraging a 14-year-old girl; Gregory in return, however, charged Cotter with having seduced and in return for that was shot by Cotter. Gregory began a libel suit after his recovery.

A FARMER got stuck on the railroad track while crossing near Boyne Falls. Seeing that he could not go on, and not being able to get help anywhere, he unhitched his horse and tried to flag the train, but too late. The engine moved on without a pilot, while his load of logs lay in different directions.

LAST May Patrick Hamon began working for Gebhart & Esterbrook of Saginaw. As was their custom, they retained 25 cents of his wages every day, to be paid him at the end of the month. When his father died he left them, contrary to their desire, and he sued for back wages. Jury disagreed.

WHILE sifting a well on the farm of Frank Pinking, in Fairgrove Township, Tuscola County, a vein of coal eight feet thick was found at a depth of 100 feet.

A YOUNG married lady of Port Huron frequently entertains an old flame—while her husband is away, of course. One afternoon recently a lady called suddenly while the flame was cooing, and he was hustled into a closet. The caller had brought her knitting, and she stayed all the afternoon. When she was gone the closet prisoner was almost gone, too, but fresh air and tender graces restored him to consciousness. The caller was conscious all the while, too, the mean old thing.

The Avalanche.

O. PALMER, Editor and Proprietor.

THURSDAY, FEB. 4, 1902.

Entered at the Post Office at Grayling, Mich., as second-class matter.

POLITICAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.

Pension Commissioner Baum asks for an appropriation of \$144,956,000 for pensions for the next fiscal year.

The United States did not demand an apology from Chili, but an ample one. That was what it got.

It is safe to say that in the past three months South America has gained an entirely new idea of the naval strength of the United States.

Now that the war scare is over, Congress should turn its attention to strengthening the laws restricting foreign immigration. —*Chicago Blade*.

The house committee on election of president, vice-president and congressmen by formal vote, approved the principle that United States senators should be elected by the people of the respective states.

Senators Hill, Gorman and Brice are said to favor the postponement of the tariff and silver issues. If so, what do they propose to make the campaign on? Surely not on Hill's personal popularity. —*Philadelphia Inquirer*.

The Washington correspondent of a western exchange has discovered that David Hill looks like the villain in a comic opera. We regret to state that the resemblance ends with looks, there is nothing comic about Hill's villainy. —*Det. Tribune*.

In spite of their denunciation of Reed's rules to prevent filibustering the democrats of the present house have adopted a rule to accomplish the same purpose. The principle is too sensible to be dropped. —*Buffalo Express*.

The inconsistency of some democratic papers is past comprehension. A few days ago they were yelping because the president did not submit the Chilean correspondence to congress and the people and now they are kicking because he did so.

The Democrats in Congress admit that they are afraid to attack the McKinley bill as a whole, so they propose to attack it by sections. They will find it an impregnable bulwark of American industry, however they attack it.

Sen. McMillan has called a meeting of the Republican State Central Com. for Feb. 23d, in Detroit, to consider what shall be done to test the Miner electoral bill. It is thought the meeting will result in the nomination of a full electoral ticket under the old law.

We understand that a young man named Jackson, who is mayor of Bay City, has been in Washington lately, and while there took occasion to see Senator Hill of New York and promised him the support of the democratic party of Michigan for the presidential nomination. This will be tough on Don Dickinson. —*Hastings Banner*.

Dan Soper says he steadily refused to dismiss Mrs. Catherine Blair, daughter-in-law of the war governor, from her place in the office of secretary of state, although considerable pressure was brought to bear on him opposing her retention. He says there are circumstances which render her dismissal by his successor a perfect shame.

Congressman Oates, of Alabama, showed more sense than refinement when he declared that "Chili must apologize or we'll whip him out of her". It should be remembered, however, that Mr. Oates comes from a section where the people know what this government can do. —*Bay City Tribune*.

The President's acceptance of the reply of Chili to the note of the 21st, inst., as substantially complying with the demands set forth, was sent to Minister Egan from the State Department on the 30th. The matter of the salute to the United States flag, was not a condition, but it will be received by this government with sincere satisfaction.

Over a year and a half ago Senator Hale predicted that reciprocity would be accepted and embraced by the American people and that it had come to stay. The course of events has verified Senator Hale's prediction in a manner which must be peculiarly satisfying to him. The American people are almost united in their admiration and approval of the reciprocity policy, and democratic theorists who propose throwing it overboard because it is not free trade will discover that they have egregiously blundered when they hear the verdict of the polls upon it. —*Det. Tribune*.

New South Wales prefers our protective methods to England's free-trade policy. The colonial parliament has just passed a tariff bill designed to promote and foster home industries.

Uncle Sam has given some patents to Indians for lands in Isabella county, that are occupied by white men, the latter claiming their rights by virtue of homestead entry papers recorded in the land office at Grayling, two years ago. Ugh! white man cheat him again. —*Detroit News*.

One Boston importer, who placed too much faith in the Democratic prophecy of high prices for fur, has just gone down under the burden of the plate, which his greediness prompted him to import. His liabilities are \$200,000. There have been three such failures, and yet all these will be charged up to the McKinley bill. —*Det. Journal*.

The outrageous action of Lieutenant Governor Sheehan in declaring State Senators Egan, O'Connor and Saxton in contempt for their recent action in refusing to vote on an enumeration bill, which was produced from the pocket of a Democratic Senator within a few moments of the time they were required to vote, and of the contents of which they knew nothing whatever, has added to the offense originally committed by the Democratic leaders at Albany in seating three Democratic Senators in districts where Republicans were elected. The striking of Senators Erwin, O'Connor and Saxton from the Senate with the previous action of the Democrats in stealing the seat of Senators Peck and Sherwood and the late Mr. Deane, virtually disfranchises voters representing a round million of the people of the Empire State. —*N. Y. Press*.

Springer's free wool bombshell is ready to be fired into the house. It is entitled "A bill to admit all wools free of duty and to repeal the duties per pound and per square yard upon woolsen goods". Its provisions are sweeping enough to carry out all its title promises. On and after January 1, 1893, Springer would exempt from duty the following articles: "All wools, hair of the camel, goat, alpaca and other like animals, and all wools on the skin, all noils, top waste, stubbing waste, roving waste, ring waste, yarn waste and woolsen rags, mungo and flocks". After the same date all the duties per pound and per square yard imposed by the McKinley law on wool and woolsen manufactures, known as specific duties are to be repealed, and only the ad valorem duties retained, at a considerable reduction. This would admit free to compete with American farmers' wool all the products of the greatest wool producing countries in the world, and would renew all the friends of under-valuation arising from ad valorem duties, with which the country has had serious experiences already and wants no more of them. The people will have none of Springer's free wool legislation. —*Det. Journal*.

The most timely article in the February CENTURY is the one written by Mr. C. C. Buel, assistant editor of the magazine, which records the results of a personal investigation by him, in behalf of the readers of THE CENTURY, in to the history, methods, and designs of a just now notorious institution. The title of the paper is "The Degradation of a State; or, the Charitable Career of the Louisiana Lottery". This number is also made notable by a posthumous story by Wolcott Balestier, who is the co-author with Mr. Kipling of "The Naulahka". "Reffey" is novel in plot and situation, principal characters being a conductor on a far Western railroad, and two young women, one the manager of an eating-house, and the other a telegraph operator.

Captain Francis V. Greene, late of the regular army, who now holds a commission as major in the militia, contributes an important illustrated paper on "The New National Guard"; and in "Open Letters" General A. V. Kantz offers a plan of making the regular army serve as a school for officers of volunteers with a view to the national defense; Lieutenant R. K. Evans puts in a plea for "A National Militia".

In a profusely illustrated article on "Pioneer Days in San Francisco", Dr. John Williamson Palmer, the well-known writer, describes, from personal knowledge, the adventurous life and diverse types that lent romantic color to the origin and growth of the metropolis of the West.

The famous "Bella", by Titian, engraved from the original by T. Cole, furnishes the frontpiece of this number of THE CENTURY, and calls attention anew to the fact that the Cole pictures are now at their most interesting point, having reached the most splendid period of Italian art. American art is interestingly represented by a full-page engraving of Brush's "Killing the Moose".

There are poems by Frank Dempster Sherman, Clinton Scollard, Richard R. Burton, Bessie Chandler, Katharine Lee Bates, Charles J. O'Malley, and others.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF CRAWFORD COUNTY, MICHIGAN.

DISBURSEMENTS CONTINUED.

'90 & '91.	\$	4 20
H. P. Forbes,		8 20
G. Peacock,		8 00
J. Funch,		8 00
R. Fraser,		8 00
E. Finkle,		8 00
A. Ballou,		4 80
W. B. Johnson,		6 00
Geo. Hartman,		7 40
W. W. Kellogg,		3 20
G. M. Hall,		6 40
G. M. Cook,		7 80
F. Scholte,		5 00
F. Barber,		5 00
J. J. Neiderer,		5 00
C. H. Vincents,		5 80
J. S. Crego,		2 00
"		4 17
W. T. Lewis,		5 20
N. T. Shafer,		5 60
F. Murphy,		11 20
T. Wakeley,		9 20
H. Funk,		8 20
J. S. Crego,		8 40
B. Crullin,		3 60
J. Hanna,		35 00
J. J. Coventry,		9 20
P. Aebli,		8 20
Dr. Smith,		5 00
L. J. Patterson,		75 00
O. Palmer,		41 67
"		9 60
J. Leece,		5 00
Isabella Cobb,		8 00
C. M. Jackson,		75 00
G. W. Love,		16 67
W. McCullough,		33 33
W. Johnson,		8 00
J. Leece,		8 33
"		5 00
DECEMBER.		
Joseph Patterson,	100 00	
S. McIntyre,	2 00	
O. Palmer,	41 67	
R. P. Forbes,	4 17	
W. A. Masters,	250 00	
Salling, Hanson & Co.,	100 00	
W. A. Masters,	80 00	
W. McCullough,	23 85	
W. A. Masters,	1 60	
do	349 17	
And. Gen'l. gr. end. Nov. 31 '90	4 17	
J. Crego,	75 00	
C. M. Jackson,	50 00	
W. A. Masters,	16 67	
G. W. Love,	5 00	
J. Leece,	8 33	
"	50	
Nels. Olson,	50	
JANUARY.		
O. Palmer,	41 67	
W. McCullough,	33 33	
F. F. Thatcher,	3 00	
F. M. Amidon,	6 00	
W. H. Smith,	1 50	
W. A. Masters,	66 60	
do	48 64	
do	13 20	
John Leece,	58 35	
do	3 50	
C. M. Jackson,	5 80	
Frank Bell,	50 00	
W. O. Bradford,	19 00	
do	10 80	
do	12 12	
Francis Murphy,	7 80	
J. J. Coventry,	8 16	
L. J. Miller,	5 00	
M. Amidon,	65	
John Leece,	10 32	
W. T. Lewis,	45 75	
W. D. Hastings,	18 12	
F. F. Thatcher,	3 00	
do	5 04	
George Fauble,	19 86	
G. F. Owens,	19 32	
W. T. Lewis,	20 16	
L. J. Miller,	19 20	
John Hanna,	20 04	
Geo. Fauble,	34 56	
H. T. Shafer,	21 18	
Murphy,	19 80	
W. O. Bradford,	4 90	
Thomas Wakeley,	4 17	
J. S. Crego,	15 00	
J. Hanna,	27 72	
W. McCullough,	25 00	
Hanson & Braden,	5 00	
Geo. A. Marsh,	5 00	
S. Sewell,	4 40	
F. Johnson,	4 00	
J. Kneth,	5 00	
G. Rand,	2 10	
J. Patterson,	4 40	
R. S. Patterson,	4 40	
J. P. Hanna,	7 20	
J. Hicock,	7 60	
P. Rohleder,	7 00	
J. Royce,	7 00	
A. Funch,	7 60	
Kirkman,	6 20	
E. Cobb,	6 00	
L. Poirier,	4 20	
J. & L. J. Patterson,	18 24	
J. Revell,	6 20	
R. Hafford,	4 20	
Neal Perden,	26 25	
D. McCormick,	8 05	
F. D. Hastings,	5 11	
C. O. McCullough,	2 00	
J. M. Finn,	1 50	
W. Shellenberger,	43 25	
N. C. Hartigan,	13 50	
O. Palmer,	104 84	
J. Nickerson, Det. House Cor.,	7 08	
C. H. Bernhard,	55	
do	2 00	
A. Taylor,	1 25	
do	2 10	
C. Range,	5 75	
Salling, Hanson & Co.,	24 40	
do	1 03	
do	6 50	
Chalker & Co.,	3 20	
W. M. Marsh,	27 00	
W. Woodburn,	79 10	
Illing Bros.,	16 67	
G. W. Love,	41 69	
O. J. Bell,	16 67	
J. Leece,	50 00	
W. A. Masters,	75 00	
C. M. Jackson,	17 00	
R. P. Forbes,	4 17	
H. T. Shafer,	8 00	
Geo. Fauble,	9 40	
Henry Funk,	8 20	
F. Murphy,	11 20	
P. Aebli,	8 50	
Det. work house,	57 77	
E. Teag,	10 41	
Thos. Churchill,	4 00	
B. Sherman,	16 60	
John Leece,	12 46	
G. W. Love,	12 77	
C. M. Jackson,	30 00	
D. McCormick,	30 00	
do	30 00	
Amidon Bros.,	8 00	
Frank Bell,	3 35	
Thos. Wakeley,	30 00	
Isabella Cobb,	2 68	
C. M. Jackson,	20 00	
W. T. Lewis,	10 56	
W. T. Shafer,	4 17	
P. Aebli,	10 32	
C. Barber,	10 20	
W. Hickey,	12 00	
John Hanna,	10 00	
do	10 08	
Geo. Fauble,	11 04	
L. J. Miller,	11 28	
E. P. Sherman,	10 60	
W. A. Masters,	48 01	
C. A. Hall,	47	
C. Wool,	48	
Isabella Cobb,	48	
C. J. Phelps,	48	
I. Dudley, time lock,	4 60	
O. J. Bell,	4 20	
S. Knight,	4 20	
A. Taylor,	50	
D. McCormick,	79 98	

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HALLO!

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"B," What?

"A," That D. B. CONNER has returned from below, where he bought a new and full stock of

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KOAL, KOOK

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Wood Stove

Cooking or Heating Purposes,

—or if you want any—

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Then come and

Examine our Goods and Low Prices.

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R. P. Forbes,		50	Nell Patton,		4 60
H. Manwarren,		50	J. J. Neiderer,		4 00
Mrs. F. Hum,		50	Charles Ingerson,		2 10
R. McElroy,		50	H. Piller,		4 20
P. E. Odell,		2 10	A. Funch,		7 60
Claggett & Pringle,		3 82	Peter Rasmussen,		2 10
F. F. Hicock,		5 50	Joseph Koyce,		7 00
L. Poirier,		7 75	G. Marsh,		5 00
J. & L. J. Patterson,		12 10	A. F. Bradley,		3 40
W. Hickey,		18 24	J. Hicock,		7 20
T. Wakeley,		24 25	J. N. Bane,		6 20
G. W. Love,		19 75	H. Feldhauser,		6 20
R. P. Forbes,		4 17	C. Sibly,		5 00
J. Leece,		25 00	F. Hoell,		4 40
W. A. Masters,		50 00	F. Grenna,		4 20
C. M. Jackson,		75 00	J. Sewell,		5 00
"			A. H. Annis,		4 00
"			J. A. Love,		4 60
"			B. F. Sherman,		5 00
"			W. Turney,		4 55
"			H. A. Day,		4 00
"			H. D. Hicock,		40
"			W. R. Brach,		20
"			Lottie Newies,		20
"			C. L. Hadley,		20
"			W. F. Vetter,		10
"			41 67		19
"			H. Wileox,		5 50
"			J. & L. J. Patterson,		2 00
"			R. McElroy,		75 00
"			C. M. Jackson,		50 00
"			W. A. Masters,		33 33
"			T. Wakeley,		25 00
"			John Leece,		4 75
"			E. Odell,		4 17
"			R. P. Forbes,		4 17
"			G. W. Love,		19 75

J. & L. J. Patterson,	6 00
W. Woodburn,	39 80
O. Palmer,	39 20
O. J. Bell,	41 67
N. D. Hartigan,	49 75
L. Fourrier,	6 75
J. J. Coventry,	4 17
do	4 17
do	4 17
do	4 17
Claggett & Pringle,	5 60
C. Ingerson,	3 35
J. J. Neiderer,	4 00
C. Sibly,	5 20
P. Rasmussen,	2 20
W. C. Johnson,	4 20
J. Hicock,	7 20
F. Hoell,	4 20
J. Bauer,	6 20
E. Porbusch,	4 00
A. H. Annis,	4 00
Nell Padden,	4 60
John Love,	1 60
B. Sherman,	5 00
H. Piller,	4 20
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G. A. Marsh,	4 20
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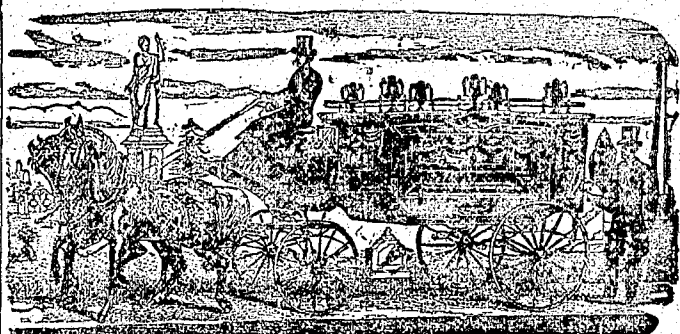
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Will be found at all times a full line of CLOTH and WOOD CASKETS and BURIAL CASES, Ladies', Gents' and Childrens' ROBES. A good HEARSE will be sent to any part of the country FREE. Especial attention given to embalming or preserving corpse.

AMBROSE CROSS

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next to the Bridge, on Cedar Street, where he is prepared to do any kind of work in his line, in a thorough and satisfactory manner.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All communications for this paper should be accompanied by the name of the author, not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of good faith on the part of the writer. Write only on one side of the paper. Be particularly careful in giving names and dates, to have the letters and figures plain and distinct.

FAMINES IN RUSSIA.

CALAMITIES THAT SEEM TO BE PERIODICAL.

The Awful Desolation Attending the French Invasion of 1812 - Cities and Towns Burned by the Cossacks - The Famine and Pestilence Which Followed the War.

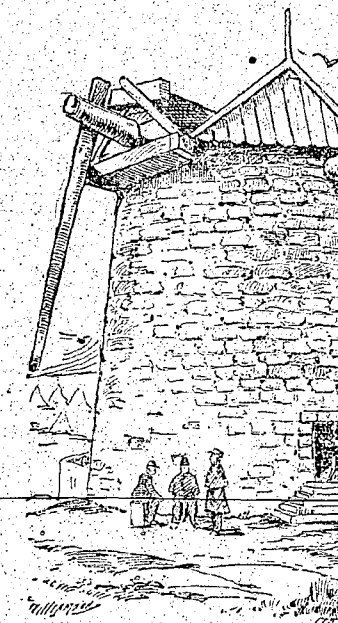
"The Great Hunger."

Russian famines are periodical like the snows, or rather perennial like the Siberian plague. To be scientifically accurate, one should distinguish the two different varieties of it, the provincial and the national, the former termed *golod*, or the little hunger, and the latter *golod*, or the great hunger. Not a year has elapsed during this century in which extreme distress in



A COMMON SIGHT.

some provinces or provinces of the empire has not assumed the dimensions of a famine, while scarcely a decade has passed away in which the local misfortune has not ripened into the national calamity. The present century, which has yet eight years to run, has already had its full share of visitations, which some optimists regard as automatic checks on over-population; in 1801, 1809, 1811, 1812, 1833, 1840, 1860, and 1891. These are the national golods. The provincial famines frequently equal



NAPOLEON'S HEADQUARTERS AT BORODINO.

them in severity if not in extent, says a writer in the *Fortnightly Review*, and so complete and child-like is the people's trust in Providence, and the czar, who, it is hoped, will utilize in good time the abundance of the harvest in the neighboring provinces to relieve their needs, that the crops are allowed to rot in some places until the peasants in others are beyond the reach of hunger and of human help, and many of them lie down by the roadside, in ditches, in the yards of deserted houses and give up the ghost without a murmur against their Little Father, the czar. In 1887-1888, when the abundance of the harvest in Russia seemed to partake of the nature of the miraculous, the distress in certain districts was to the full as intense and disastrous as at present. In the government of Smolensk, the peasants lived during the year on bread made partly of rye and partly of the husks of rye, often eaten with the worm-eaten bark of the oak or the pine, which



A WATER CARRIER IN SMOLENSK.

still without satisfying the cravings of hunger. The evil is undeniably chronic; the symptoms are always the same, and the descriptions of them published ten or fifty years ago might be sorted up fresh to-day or next year as faithful photographs of the life in death of millions of Russian Christians. The czars have been aware of it for centuries, and have done all that they could be expected to do to prepare for it. The district now affected extends from Odessa on the shores of the Black Sea, through Little Russia, athwart the rich black loam country celebrated for its marvellous fertility, straight through the country watered by the Volga, across the Urals, growing wider and wider till it reaches Tobolsk; in other words, it covers a tract of land 3,000 miles long and from 500 to 1,000 miles broad, which supports a population of forty millions. The terrible suffering now being experienced recalls, it is said, to the un-

fortunate inhabitants of that stricken country the historic days in the early part of this century, when a famine, the worst of all, provided for three years. Then, as now, according to the *Globe*, Democrat, the central districts of the empire were devastated, and to the horrors of famine and pestilence were added the horrors of war in its most savage form. The occasion of this former visitation was the invasion of Russia by Napoleon and the French, an invasion which, in destructiveness of human life, has few parallels in ancient or modern times.

As to the justice of the war waged by Napoleon against the mighty power of the North there always has been and always will be a difference of opinion, for certainly there was provocation enough on both sides. Napoleon thought that the power of Russia should be curbed; he preferred to wage the war in person, so between the years 1810 and 1812 he made preparations for the most stupendous military operation he had ever undertaken.

The first fright over, busy preparations were made throughout the giant empire to meet the coming French. Sixty by thousands were drafted, hand-picked, sent to points of instruction to be trained and drilled, and as rapidly as possible were hurried to the front. Along the western frontier, then described by the *River Niemen*, an army of 200,000 was gathered. Every effort was made to inspire the Russian troops with confidence, but when the massive columns of Napoleon began to move from Königsberg the hearts of the Russian generals failed; Kutusoff had been beaten by Napoleon at Austerlitz, and remembered the lesson. The French were allowed to cross the Niemen without a blow, and June 24, at Kovno, less than 100 miles from the Baltic, the grand army passed into Russian territory. Napoleon soon perceived what kind of warfare would be waged against him. The Russian armies of the frontier, altogether numbering nearly 400,000 men, were in full retreat, leaving desolation behind them. As they retired, in addition to burning the bridges and destroying the roads, they drove before them the peasants and their cattle; they burned the houses; they leveled the fences, they destroyed the inclosures, they set on fire the growing crops.

Carrying provisions was a matter experienced the French. In all their expeditions up to this time they had lived on what was needed, and paying for it or not as circumstances dictated. Aware of the thinly settled districts, and which they must travel during the invasion of Russia, immense stores had been collected at Königsberg, but bad management was conspicuous in forwarding them for the use of the troops. When the army crossed the Niemen not

a fourth of the baggage wagons had arrived, and before the middle of July, or in less than two weeks, through the battle, however, a skirmish had been fought, hundreds of men and over 10,000 horses had perished from starvation and exposure, and 25,000 patients were in the field hospitals. This was but the beginning. The Russians were afraid to begin with Napoleon in the field. Kutusoff's experience at Austerlitz had made him careful; so on the principle that no army could exist in the midst of ruins, they destroyed right and left everything that could be of use to the enemy. The whole of Lithuania was depopulated and its people driven into exile. A tract of country 200 miles wide and 350 miles in extent from east to west was bare of inhabitants and of means of supporting life. The Cossacks, swarming everywhere, depopulated and ruined the provinces of Wilna, Vitebsk, Minsk, Smolensk, and Moscow. Nor did the savage system cease with driving off the population of the country districts and destroying houses, barns and crops. The towns were no more spared than the rural districts. Between the Niemen and Moscow the flourishing towns of Wilna, Sventzian, Utechat, Kamen, Vitebsk, Smolensk, Valutina, Jarkovo, Jemlevo, Ostel, Borsina, with over a hundred villages were ruthlessly depopulated and set on fire.

Only twice did the Russians venture to oppose Napoleon between the Niemen and the capital. Urged by the remonstrances of the inhabitants of Smolensk, a city deemed by the Russians the most holy of Moscow, the Russian commander made a stand almost before its gates, and was defeated with terrible slaughter. Then again, at the command of his imperial master, who forbade him to give up Moscow without striking a blow in its defense, Kutusoff made a stand on the Moskwa at the little village of Borodino, where was fought one of the greatest battles of history. Terrible was the loss on both sides. The French admitted a loss of 40,000 in killed and wounded, the latter dying almost to a man, from neglect, while the most authentic accounts make the Russian loss nearly 60,000, and in addition to this terrible slaughter they were driven in headlong rout from the field. Kutusoff intended to fight another battle, but the French coming upon him before he could rally, drove him back, and with furred colors and silent drums he marched through the capital, the rear-guard following, and driving off the population of over 300,000. This evacuation of the capital has been represented as spontaneous, but in view of the well-known methods pursued by the Russians at other points during the campaign, it seems altogether improbable that a great city would be abandoned by its entire population with such precipitation that large quantities of the most valuable property were left without the slightest apparent effort at preservation. As the commander of the rear guard prepared to evacuate the city, he released all the prisoners in the various jails and houses of detention, and bringing them before him, promised them freedom and large rewards if they would set the city on fire during the Russian occupation. The day after the Russian evacuation of the city, moved by Napoleon, passed through the Holy Gate into the Kremlin, took up his quarters in Alexander's

palace, looking out across the square upon the curious Oriental Cathedral of St. Basil, and offered to his great enemy conditions of peace. To his letter no reply was deigned, and the next day the work of destruction began by Alexander and Kutusoff was begun by the deplored wretches who were left for that



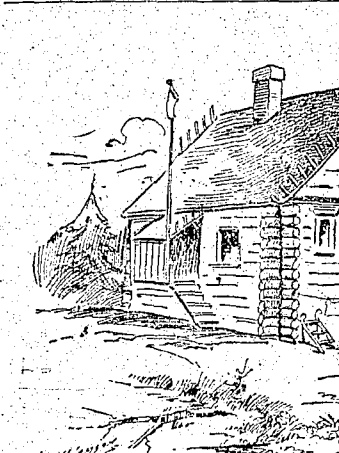
PEASANT SUFFERERS IN LITHUANIA.

purpose. The best quarters of the city were destroyed, and as the fall was rapidly approaching, the Russian army, under the command of Kutusoff, during the winter season at once became prominent. Several plans were proposed; one, to fortify Moscow, gather all the

provisions possible, and remain there during the winter. The second was to retreat direct to Germany as quickly as possible; the third, to go south to the fertile province of Kaugan, and there winter. The third was adopted. The army set forth with a strength of less than one-half of that with which it had entered Russia, and starting to the south, found the Russians had anticipated no movement, and that Kutusoff was there with all his forces. At Malo-Jaroslawitz a terrible battle was fought; the Russians were defeated, but as they still showed a formidable front, Napoleon determined to retreat along the line of his advance and make the best of his way back to the Niemen.

Then began the most disastrous movement of a body of troops ever seen in modern times, and yet distinguished at almost every turn by the gallantry of generalship that has few equals. After leaving Smolensk, Ney was cut off from the main body, and his division was supposed to be lost, but by incredible efforts and a superhuman display of bravery he reached his command and rejoined Napoleon on the Berezina. A year 70 years ago, a severe day set in, and in a few days the grand army became a mass of starving humanity. Horses died by thousands of starvation and cold; men perished like flies. Most were from the south of Europe; all were in their summer uniforms, and were utterly unprepared for the cold of an arctic winter. There were no overcoats; the baggage wagons were all left behind; no stores could be saved; there were no provisions, no medicines; the weak could not help the sick; the wounded were left to die. As the cold grew more severe deaths by wholesale occurred; as the famine grew worse bits of horse-flesh became luxuries; handfuls of human corn, snatched from the ruined stores were dainties. On the arrival of the army on the Berezina, about half way back on the road to Germany, all hope seemed to be taken away. Napoleon had less than 20,000 effective troops and over 70,000 stragglers, soldiers, camp followers, foreigners in Russia who preferred to follow the French army, runaway serfs, soldiers who had lost their arms, women, children, wounded and crippled. He had no artillery, no cavalry. The opposite side of the river was held by the Russians, numbering over 140,000 men, with an abundance of artillery and many thousands of Cossack cavalry. At his rear hovered a cloud of savage horsemen, while a division of the Russian army was in close pursuit. Never did the genius of Napoleon appear to better advantage. He made preparations for the worst. All the useless baggage wagons were destroyed; the eagles of all the regiments were collected and buried; he cast into the flames all his own private papers and memoranda. The officers who had been able to save their horses he organized into a band called the "Sacred Squadron." Colonels, majors and generals were selected as private captains, and marshals of France acted as non-commissioned officers and captains. Napoleon took every means to deceive the enemy; bodies of troops were dispatched down the river, as if he intended to force his passage at a ford some distance lower down. While Kutusoff was thus deceived, the engineers were set to work at night to build a bridge. Incredible were the dif-

ferences under which they labored. There were no proper tools, there was no lumber, even nails were lacking; the river was full of floating ice, which impeded the efforts of the workers. Of the 107 engineers who, through that long and terrible night, labored from waist deep to neck deep in water, only five survived; but by daylight the bridge was done. The effective troops passed over, took possession of the heights on the opposite side, and the host of stragglers began to follow. But the deceived Russians now returned, and established their artillery where it was beyond the reach of the French, and began firing on the bridge. The most awful destruction ensued. The advancing Cossacks, crowding on the swarms of unarmed fugitives, cut them down without mercy; the artillery played upon them as they crossed the bridge, and, as the regular forces of the Russian army, ordered to give way to set the bridge on fire. It was done while some thousands of the French fugitives were still on the further side



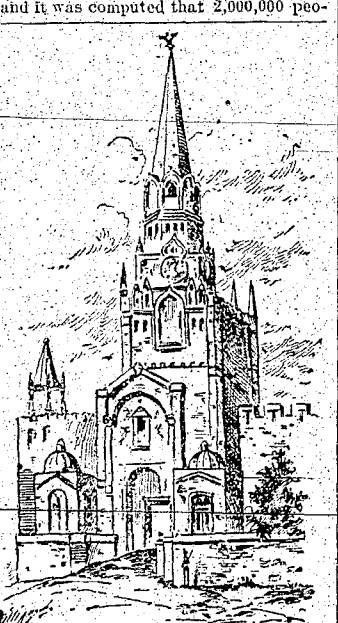
ON THE BANKS OF THE BERESINA.

brought pestilence in its worst form; thousands of Russian peasants died; just how many there are no means of knowing, but it is computed that in the years 1812, 1813 and 1814, in consequence of the French invasion and its resulting woes, over 1,500,000 Russians perished.

of the river. In wild despair, some attempted to escape by swimming, others by rushing through the flames. In the spring 36,000 dead bodies were drawn from the Berezina and burned on its banks. The Russians never ventured another attack, but hovered round the shattered remnants of the Grand Army, cutting off stragglers, and from a safe distance playing on the retreating columns with their artillery, to which no reply could be made.

The cold became extreme. The winter in Russia. The thermometer sunk to 27 degrees below zero. The retreat became a rout. All organization was lost. Hunger made all equal, and all perished alike. In the morning a ring of corpses round the embers of an extinguished fire indicated the bivouac of the preceding evening. Packs of wolves, flocks of crows, vultures and other birds of prey followed the line of march to feed on the bodies of the dead. Numerous instances of cannibalism occurred, the miserable survivors eating the flesh of their departed comrades.

Exclusive of those left at various points to maintain a line of communication, the number of men in the French army which actually marched into the heart of Russia was estimated at 500,000. Of these, 100,000 were killed in battle



THE HOLY GATE OF THE KREMLIN.

or wounded and perished in the field or in hospital, 100,000 were taken prisoners and died in the Siberian mines, while nearly 150,000 more died of famine or exposure and cold during the terrible retreat. Never was ruin more complete. Immense as were the losses of the French, those of the Russians were far greater. The mortality in battle vastly exceeded that of the French, and the deaths from hunger were incalculable. During the advance of the French, the Cossacks, as already stated, burned the cities and towns, and devastated the country, in order that the invaders might fall the story. During the retreat the French burned everything behind them to prevent pursuit. Over 300 cities and villages were thus totally destroyed in the late summer, fall and early winter, and it was computed that 2,000,000 peo-

ple, inhabitants of Russia, were rendered homeless and destitute. Half a dozen of the finest provinces in the empire were ruined, and their inhabitants driven out to starve. Of the 300,000 population of Moscow, over one-third died of starvation and exposure during that awful winter no less than 1,000,000 perished. But the winter of 1812-13 did not close the terrible scene. The resources of Napoleon were not exhausted. He hurried home to raise another army and renew the war. To oppose him a merciless conscription was ordered in Russia to obtain troops. The heads of families were taken away, only sons did not escape, and during the following season no crops were sown in the devastated country. The famine continued. There were no relief committees in those days; there were no railroads, no contributions from the benevolent of Europe, for Europe was still busy with the war. Masses of dead bodies on the Berezina, before Smolensk, on the Moskwa near Borodino, and along the line of retreat,

Jerrold, all his life long, bitterly protested against the fashion of translating and adapting, which excluded the work of native writers and gave a reputation to men for work which they had not originated. Talking once with Mr. Planché (a noted adapter of plays) on this question, Planché insisted that some of his characters were original. "Don't you remember," he said, "my baroness in 'Ask No Questions'?" "Yes, indeed, I don't think I ever saw a piece of yours without being struck by your barrenness," was the reply.

BURYING A CHINAMAN.

Description of the Ceremony as Conducted in the Flowery Kingdom.

We are in the Chinese quarter of San Francisco. Here is a house where a death has occurred. A Chinese friend procures admittance for us, so that we may see something of Chinese funeral customs. As soon as the breath has left the body professional mourners are called in, who do it with all the fiery possible. If it is a female that has died her cheeks are heavily rouged, and if the deceased in life was not the owner of sufficient jewelry to decorate the remains with, friends and relatives are called upon to furnish the desired amount.

If the weather is favorable the body is laid out on a table placed in a street or alley adjoining the late residence of the deceased, but covered from sight with a large white cloth. Next to the table holding the deceased is another table covered with most, candles, preserved coconut, and ginger, together with a liberal supply of Chinese wine and brandy. Among the funeral menials will always be found a pig or a hog roasted whole, the size of the porcine offering being graded according to the age of the deceased.

As soon as the body and feast are laid out in state the serious work of the professional mourners commences. The number of mourners varies according to the social standing of the deceased in life—from six to ten being the average for an adult. The mourners are dressed from head to foot in white, the face and head being hid from sight by a white hood, so that one cannot tell whether the mourners are male or female.

The first move is to gather round the bier and chant a mournful dirge, not forgetting to extol the many virtues of the departed. During this time they are constantly moving around in a circle to prevent any evil spirit from creeping in and so getting possession of the body. As soon as the dirge is over the musicians commence, beating the gongs, cymbals, and tom-toms, the mourners at the same time giving vent to groans, speeches, and howls, varying the proceedings by beating themselves and others with clenched fists, pulling their hair and knocking their heads against the adjoining building. They keep this up until they work themselves into a perfect state of frenzy, and together with the musicians make such an uproar that one would think that pandemonium had broken loose. The object of beating the gongs, etc., is to frighten the devils away. In the meantime, every two or three minutes, handfuls of small pieces of paper are thrown in the air, over the body of the deceased, so that if by any chance some of the devils should get by the musicians and mourners they would be frightened by the pieces of paper, as they are supposed to represent so many good spirits. Then joss-sticks, punk and incense are kept burning. The mourning and racket last for at least twenty-four hours.

The morning of the funeral the body is taken from the bier, and after being stripped of the ornaments and other finery is placed in a coffin. A piece of money is placed in the hands of the deceased, a written prayer or charm is put in the mouth, and a bottle of wine or brandy, together with a liberal allowance of food, is also inclosed in the coffin. Then an express wagon is obtained, and the coffin and liquor are placed in the wagon, and two or more men are continually throwing joss papers in the air until their burning is reached. Second in the line of the procession is a wagon filled with the hired mourners, then the relatives and friends follow, the deceased bringing up the rear, with the exception of two men who are detailed to follow behind and scatter joss papers.

When the grave is reached the real agony begins. The mourners redouble their efforts and the musicians beat their gongs, etc., with all the power possible. The coffin is lowered into the grave, another piece of money is placed upon the top of the coffin, and the grave filled. The money is for the purpose of paying the god of waters for rowing the deceased across the dark waters. It is supposed that the god of waters will be satisfied by merely seeing the money in the hands of the deceased.

The money on top of the coffin is for the benefit of the evil spirits. After the grave is filled, the catables, sweetmeats, and liquor are placed over it, as the mere sight of the food will appease the hunger of the gods. The food does not remain at the grave very long. The morning after, any one is allowed to take it away, as the spirits are supposed to have satisfied their hunger during the night.—Hearth and Hall.

He Had Noticed It. Jerrold, all his life long, bitterly protested against the fashion of translating and adapting, which excluded the work of native writers and gave a reputation to men for work which they had not originated. Talking once with Mr. Planché (a noted adapter of plays) on this question, Planché insisted that some of his characters were original. "Don't you remember," he said, "my baroness in 'Ask No Questions'?" "Yes, indeed, I don't think I ever saw a piece of yours without being struck by your barrenness," was the reply.

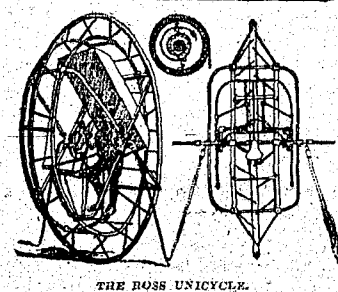
Arkansas Cactigotties. Arkansas has two natural curiosities, which will be exhibited at the World's Fair, and which will be of interest to lumbermen. One is an oak tree ten inches in diameter, pierced through and through by a small cedar three inches in diameter. The other is a sample of Arkansas grape vine found in Lincoln County. It is eighteen inches in diameter at the butt and fifty yards long.—Little Rock Gazette.

California's Big Orange Crop. The orange crop of California has become so large that it cannot be marketed at paying prices. Thousands of acres of the land of California are now bearing young lemon trees. The olive and fig crops of the State are now profitable. Experiments in the raising of Ceylon tea in Southern California will soon be tried.

THE ROSS UNICYCLE.

A Novel Machine Recently Patented by an Illinois Inventor.

The Bearings Weekly gives a description and illustration of a novel unicycle which was patented by its



THE ROSS UNICYCLE.

inventor, a resident of Ipava, Ill. From the rim of the large single wheel short diverging spokes extend to inner parallel rims some distance apart, bent arms attached to the latter rims extending to a hub on each side of the wheel, the hub consisting of a sleeve provided with ball bearings through which the axle extends. Mounted in ball bearings on each of the sleeves is an arm extending above and below, the upper end of the arms having handles by which the machine is guided, while their lower ends support a framework having a cross bar to which is secured the seat perch, the frame also affording bearings for an axle, on which are pivoted the pedal levers. Loosely mounted in a hollow circular case at each side of the machine, on the inner end of the axle and sleeve, is a ratchet mechanism for driving the wheel, one of the figures showing a sectional view of the ratchet attachment. A strap held in a groove on the face of the ratchet casing extends downward on each side to one of the pedal levers, to which it is secured, and as the pedals are operated the ratchet wheel and sleeve are turned to move the main wheel. To the outer ends of the axles are attached rods long enough to extend to the ground, when the axles are turned into position to bring their points down, and at a convenient point in front of the rider is a curved brake bar, connected with the squared inner ends of the axles, so that by raising the brake bar the axle is turned to throw the points of the rods down into the ground, as shown in dotted lines in the sectional plan view and in full lines in the figure perspective.

Discoveries Made by Photography. Photography applied to astronomy is a purpose is continually achieving unlooked-for triumphs. One of the latest is the discovery of previously unknown objects on the moon. The photographs of the moon made with the great Lick telescope on Mount Hamilton, in California, are the finest in the world, and last summer the ruins of a huge crater, some fifty miles in diameter, were discovered by means of one of these photographs. The ruins lie near the celebrated crater mountain called Copernicus. With telescopes alone these rocky ruins had escaped attention, but on the exquisitely clear negative of the photograph they were discernible.

There seems to be something in the quality of the light, reflected from this spot in the moon which enables its features to print their image more sharply on the photographic plate than they appear to the eye even when aided by a powerful telescope. Apparently the ruined crater in question has had its walls broken down and nearly buried by vast outflows of lava which have burst from the interior of the moon in its neighborhood. Copernicus, although itself immensely old and long since extinct, is evidently far younger than its ruined neighbor.

More recently Prof. Weinek, of Prague, in examining the photographic negative of the moon made by the Lick telescope, has discovered upon the remains of another great crater wall at some distance southeast of the well-known crater named Triensacker.

Prof. Weinek finds that the negatives are so perfect that they must be strongly magnified in order that all the minute details which they contain shall be rendered visible.

No one can yet fix a limit to the power of photography to reveal what would otherwise be hidden from human eyes in the depths of space.

Made Her Happy. Meissner tells a pathetic anecdote of Heine which places him in the kindest light.

One day, when his end was very near, Meissner entered and found him dictating a letter to be sent to his mother.

"What," cried Meissner, "does the old lady who dwells by the Dammtor still live?" "Truly; though old and sick and feeble, still beats the warm mother heart for me." "And do you often write to her?" "Regularly, every month." "Ah," cried Meissner, "how unhappy she must be to hear of your sorrow and sickness."

"Oh, as to that," returned Heine, "my mother believes me as well and sound as when I saw her last. She is aged and reads no papers, and the few old friends she sees are in like condition. I write to her often as cheerfully as possible and tell her of my life, and how happy I am. If she notices that only the signature is mine, the explanation is that I have pains in the eyes which will soon pass off. And thus she is happy. For the rest, that a son should be so ill and wretched as I am, no mother would believe."

American in England. American visitors in England are often surprised to find unfamiliar names of Englishmen current there as the inventors of what they had always been accustomed to regard as the creation of American brains. It is not Cyrus Field's name that is spoken there in connection with Atlantic cables, nor Howe's with the sewing machine. In fact, few things are ever seen labeled "American" in London shops, no matter what their origin may have been, that are not of the cheapest and often the most inferior description.—Philadelphia Ledger.

OUR BUDGET OF FUN.

HUMOROUS SAYINGS AND DOINGS HERE AND THERE.

Jokes and Jokelets that are supposed to have been recently born—sayings and doings that are odd, curious and laughable.

Breach-of-Promise Case. Lawyer—You claim that you were insane when you proposed to her? Defendant—Yes, sir. "Can you prove it?" "Yes, sir." "How?" "By producing the plaintiff in court and letting the jury look at her."—Light.

This Fact. Jeweler—A clock will go twelve months without winding. Oldboy—Well, how long would it go if it were wound?—New York Herald.

A Play that Failed. Fledgely—I see that bow-knots in jewelry are very fashionable. Gwendollin—Bow-knots have always been fashionable. And she thought she heard the dull thud of the setting sun as the young man showed no signs of intelligence. —The Jewellers' Circular.

Prisoner—If your Honor pleases, the officer who arrested me is unworthy of belief. He actually offered to carry a bribe from me to your Honor, but I refused. Justice O'Rourke—Folpe that mon \$20. Prisoner (amazed)—What for? Justice O'Rourke—For contempt of court, sorr.—Life.

Paats for a Generation. Mrs. Whalen—How yez enny short pants or byes? Mr. Silverstein—I have not. I have long pants for mens. Buy a hair for your husband, yash em yonce und dey vill fit der chile. I have sold pants dot bare yent drue a whole generation like dot. De longer you yash em de stailier dey gits.—Judge.

She Was Willing. Husband—My dear, we'll have to economize. Wife—Well, let's smoke less.—Puck.



Balked. Ruthington (who has been scooped by the races, flitted by his best girl, and left out of his uncle's will all in one day)—This is the last, one soft resting-place for me—the river! Other Kerrigan—"O! wouldn't you go on that side of 'er dock, young feller. It's jam full of Haverstraw brick-scows."—Judge.

Found His Level. Old Friend Well, old boy, how have you been getting along? Did you succeed as a novelist? Mr. Soarhigh—No; the publishers said my imagination was too lively—plots lacked probability, you know—so I had to give it up; but I'm doing first-rate. "What at?" "Writing railway advertisements."—New York Weekly.

What He Got. She—I've just made myself a present of a new bonnet, and I've got something for you, too. He—Good! What was it? She—The bill.—Harper's Bazar.

Dangerous Revelations. Belle—Don't you think a gentleman should always wear a dress suit when he makes a call on a young lady? Nell (doubtfully)—Well, I don't know. If he wears a full-dress suit his shirt bosom when he gets home gives him dead away.—Somerville Journal.

Too Precious to Be Jeopardized. Fireman—Now, then, one at a time—hurry up, if you want to get out alive. Mr. Benishayre—Sarg the cook first—we may never be able to get another one.—Puck.

A Hypothetical Case. He—Do you know what I'd do if I were you? She—No; what? He—I'd marry me.—Puck.

A Wonderful Memory. Bullfinch—Miss Simlax has simply a wonderful memory. Woodcock—Why, what proof has she given of it? Bullfinch—Why, I met her at a supper last night and she not only remanded me about our being engaged last summer, but gave me a number of the details.—Boston Courier.

Innocent Repartees. "Do horses go faster with shoes or without them?" asked the wife, looking up from the pages of "Black Beauty." "With them, I should say," answered her husband. "What makes you think so?" "Well, I've noticed that a hen always goes faster after you shoe it."—New York Press.

One of the Mysteries. "I don't see why they call this a situation," said the horse-car driver, "with me a standin' all day long."—Epoch.

She was Frugal. A considerate, generous cobbler in Delaware gave his wife a certain sum of money each week for her personal use. He never inquired what she did with it, but after thirty-nine years of wedded life the wife died, and in the drawer of an antique table the husband found a bag containing gold, also a lot of greenbacks, amounting in all to \$10,000. And now all the cobblers in Boston try the experiment.

A Diet of oatmeal and brown bread promotes the growth of hair.

